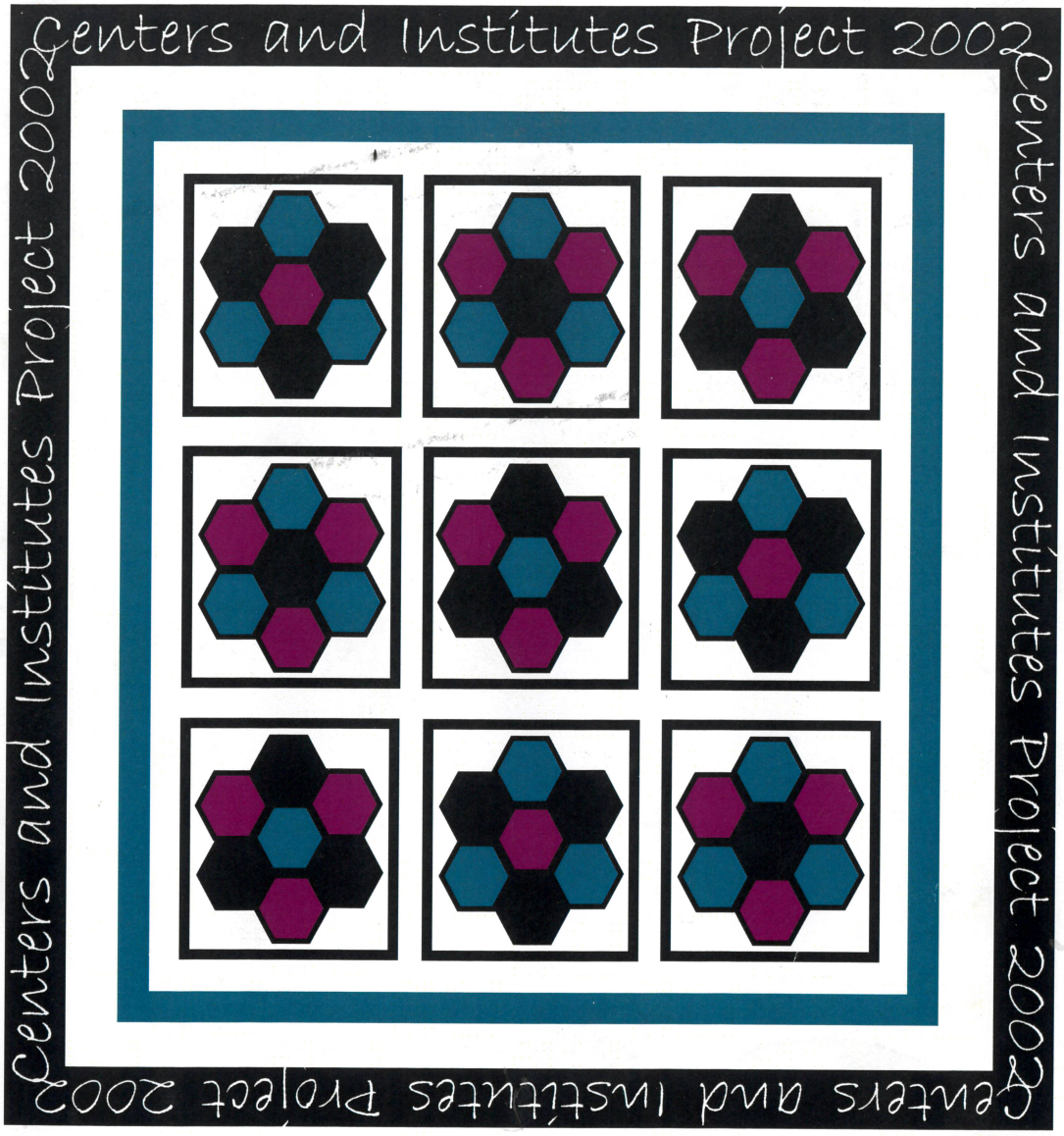

sponsored by the

Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

with support from Lilly Foundation

Richard Davis
2003

INDIANA UNIVERSITY
PURDUE UNIVERSITY
INDIANAPOLIS

October 2002

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to offer this booklet containing a list and description of those centers and institutes dedicated to the academic study of religion in the United States. As part of the ongoing "Centers and Institute Project," we hope to update and republish this booklet each year in order to keep you up to date on the growth of this important field.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY
OF RELIGION AND
AMERICAN CULTURE

The significance of religion in American life is something that some scholars have only recently discovered, whether the discipline is history, sociology, or political science, among others. The service that the following centers and institutes offer to researchers is immeasurable, but their influence goes far beyond the walls of academia. Indeed, they each stand as constant reference tools for reporters and average citizens who have questions about the relationship of religion to specific topics. In all, their public teaching roles provide extended education opportunities that may be difficult to measure, but are impossible to overestimate.

The Centers and Institutes Project provides a means to help these academic research organizations function better and more efficiently. It is designed to assemble those centers that study religion in America to discuss common goals, problems, and solutions, as well as look for opportunities to cooperate on projects of shared interest. The project is also intended to raise the profile of these organizations by promoting their work in various settings. It is our hope that you will use this publication as a reference guide for your own work.

This project, including conferences, receptions at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion, and this publication, are made possible by the generous support of Lilly Endowment. I would like to thank that organization for committing itself to the notion that supporting the best academic research on religion in America actually improves the education of many thousands of citizens.

I would also like to express my gratitude to those involved in piecing this publication together. I thank those working at the centers and institutes for getting their information back to us in such a timely manner. I also want to thank Lynda Van Kirk for her initial research to compile the names of these organizations. Most importantly, I am deeply indebted to the tireless labors of Rebecca Vasko, the program coordinator of the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. This booklet is but one of many pieces of evidence of her dedication to the Centers and Institutes Project.

Philip Goff
Director, Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture
Associate Professor of Religious Studies and American Studies
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Cavanaugh Hall 341
425 University Boulevard
Indianapolis, Indiana
46202-5140

317-274-8409
Fax: 317-278-3354

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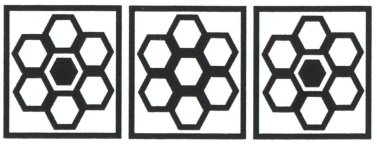
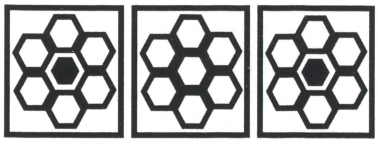


Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life

24 Quincy Road
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
Phone: 617-552-1860
Fax: 617-552-1863
Email: publife@bc.com
URL: www.bc.edu/boisi
Outreach Publications: *The Boisi Center Report*

Alan Wolfe, Director
Patricia Chang, Assistant Director
Susan Richards, Administrative Assistant

The goal of the Boisi Center is to create opportunities where a community of scholars, policy makers, media and religious leaders in the Boston area and nationally can connect in conversations and scholarly reflection around issues at the intersection of religion and American public life. The hope is that such conversations can help to clarify the moral and normative consequences of public policies in ways that can help us to maintain the common good, while respecting our growing religious diversity.



Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Religion and Public Life

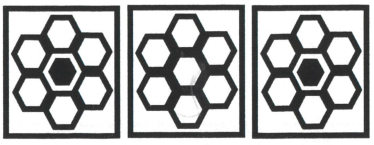
Department of Religious Studies
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3130
Phone: 805-893-7136
Fax : 805-893-2059
Email: wcroof@religion.ucsb.edu
URL: www.cappscenter.ucsb.edu

Wade Clark Roof, Director
J. Shawn Landres, Program Director, UCSB-Fulbright American Studies Institute

The purpose of the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Religion and Public life is to honor and further the legacy of Walter Capps. After teaching 32 years in the Department of Religious Studies, he was elected to the U.S. Congress where he served from January, 1997 until October of that year when he died suddenly. Throughout this career he sought to bring academia and the community together around issues of broad public concern where moral, ethical, and religious values were involved. The Center was organized in January, 2002.

More specifically, the Capps Center will sponsor conferences and lectures within the Central Coast community of California; send interns to Washington and Sacramento to learn about the political process; support a Distinguished Visiting Professor one quarter each year, and fund dissertation research for graduate students working in the area of religion and public life.

During Summer 2002, the Capps Center co-hosted the UCSB-Fulbright American Studies Institute on "Religion in the United States: Pluralism and Public Presence." Eighteen scholars from eighteen foreign countries attended the six-week program, which included two weeks of travel to Los Angeles, Indianapolis, Atlanta, and Washington, DC.

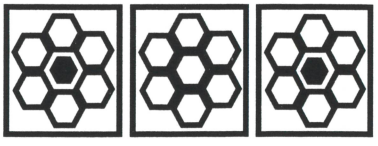


Center for Religion and American Life at Yale

Box 208364
New Haven, CT 06520-8364
Phone: 203-432-4040
Fax: 203-436-0302
Email: cral@yale.edu
URL: www.yale.edu/cral
Outreach Publications: informational brochure, annual newsletter

Jon Butler and Harry Stout, Directors
Ken Minkema, Administrator Director

Founded in 1998, the Center for Religion and American Life at Yale is a non-sectarian, non-denominational, and interdisciplinary initiative with a primary focus on history that encourages scholarship in American religious experience in all its aspects from European settlement to the present. The Center especially supports projects that address causal relationships between religion and American life in all its manifestations. By focusing comprehensive research and dialogue around the theme of American religion, the Center seeks to increase academic and public awareness of the role that religion has played in American society, to build a body of literature for use by specialists, public schools, and the general public, and to provide materials and resources for teaching about religion. Each year, the Center awards non-residential fellowships to scholars of all ranks. In addition, the Center sponsors events on Yale University's campus, including a luncheon seminar series, public lectures, the Northeast Regional Faculty Conference, which takes place the weekend after Thanksgiving, and the Spring Fellows Conference, held the first weekend in May.



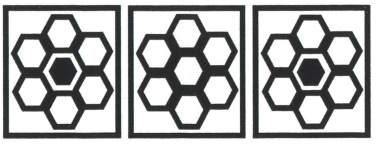
Center for Religion and Civic Culture

University of Southern California
835 W. 34th Street, Suite 106
Los Angeles, California 90089-0751
Phone: 213-740-8562
Fax: 213-740-5810
Email: crcc@usc.edu
URL: www.usc.edu/crcc
Outreach Publications: *Religion in the City*

Donald E. Miller, Director
Grace R. Dyrness, Associate Director
Jon Miller, Research Director
John Orr, Director of Special Projects
Samuel Paul, Director of Administration
Timothy Sato, Director of Communications

The Center for Religion and Civic Culture was established at the University of Southern California in 1996 by a grant from The James Irvine Foundation. When it began, the center's mission was to document the civic role of religion in Southern California, especially Los Angeles. Today, the center continues to conduct community research and interprets its findings for scholars, religious institutions, funders, public officials and the media, although its scope and mission have expanded.

CRCC, with support from The Pew Charitable Trusts, has launched a major program to spur interdisciplinary religion research at the University of Southern California. Three subject areas, Religion and Immigration, Faith-based Community Development and Organizing, and Religion and Culture, are the programmatic foci of this research. CRCC is also engaged in numerous research projects, including: global projects on Pentecostalism and Anglicanism, qualitative research on faith-based human service provision, documentation of an interfaith coalitions, and a Ford Foundation project on the connection between individual spirituality and social transformation. The center has also engaged in the visual documentation of religious life in Los Angeles through its traveling photographic exhibit, The Soul of Los Angeles, and digital video recordings. Recently, the Getty Grant Program funded a CRCC project to create an Internet archive of missionary photographs in association with several universities and missionary societies in the United States and Europe.

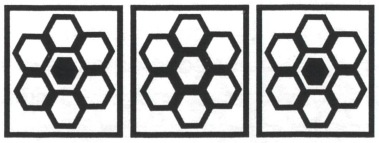


Center for Religion, Cultures, and Society in the Western United States

(temporary): Department of Religion, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA 98447-0003
Phone: (temporary) 253-535-7776
Fax : (temporary) 253-536-5132
Email: not yet assigned
URL: not yet assigned; will be linked to www.plu.edu

Patricia O'Connell Killen, Department of Religion, Acting Director
Director (to be appointed)
Administrative Assistant (to be hired)

The Center for Religion Cultures, and Society in the Western United States is in the process of being formed at Pacific Lutheran University and will be formally launched in 2003. The Center's purpose is to increase understanding of the dynamics of individual and institutional religiousness in the western U.S, especially how these influence the health and welfare of communities. To this end, the Center engages in an array of networking, research, and educational activities. It initiates and supports conversations among scholars across fields and between scholars and ministry practitioners. It undertakes research projects that increase knowledge about the dynamics of religion in the western United States. And, it provides information and educational resources to scholars interested in religion and regional cultures, to congregations and judicatories, to community organizations and agencies, including the media, and to the general public.



Center for Religion and Media

New York University
Center for Media, Culture and History
Department of Anthropology, NYU
25 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10003
Phone No.: Abrash 212-998- 3759; Ginsburg 212-998-8558; Zito 212-992-9656
Email: TBA

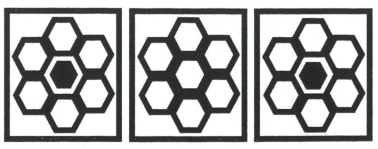
Co-directors
Faye Ginsburg, David B. Kriser Professor of Anthropology
Director, Center for Media, Culture and History
Angela Zito, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Religious Studies
Director of Religious Studies Program
Jay Rosen, Professor of Journalism and creator of *The Public Square: A New Web Guide to Religion and the Media*
Barbara Abrash, Program Associate
Five part-time work-study students

We are delighted to announce the award of a Pew Charitable Trusts Grant to establish at NYU an interdisciplinary Center for Religion and Media. The NYU project represents collaboration among the directors of the Religious Studies Program, the Center for Media, Culture and History, and the Department of Journalism.

The funding is a two-year start up grant with an expected three-year renewal, after which we anticipate the Center will be independent. The project was conceived by Anthropology Professors Faye Ginsburg, Director of the Center for Media, Culture and History, and Angela Zito, Director of the Religious Studies Program, who will be co-directing the Center. Jay Rosen, Chair of the Department of Journalism, will be directing the Center's innovative web-based journal, *The Public Square: A New Web Guide to Religion and the Media.*

The goal of the new Center for Religion and Media is to develop and broaden interdisciplinary and cross-cultural scholarship, pedagogy, and public knowledge of religion and media as a global phenomenon with deep local roots. The events of September 11 and their aftermath have made understanding the spread of religious ideas and practices through a variety of media—something that has always been important—of concern to nearly everyone.

The Center will bring together some of NYU's strongest departments and programs, including Anthroplogy, Journalism, Cinema Studies, History, Middle East Studies, and Performance Studies. The Center will function simultaneously as a space for scholarly endeavor, as a stage for public educational events, and as an electronic interface with media specialists and the public.

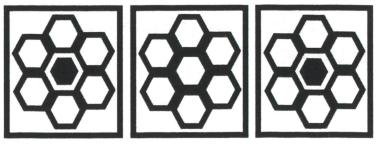


Center for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society

University of Pennsylvania
Leadership Hall
3814 Walnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104-6197
Phone: 215 746-7100
Fax: 317-746-7101
Email: crrucslh@sas.upenn.edu
URL: www.crrucs.org
Outreach Publications: newsletter forthcoming

Byron R. Johnson, Director; John J. Dilulio (Founding Director)
Cynthia Brodbeck, Associate Director
Lowell Livezey, Senior Research Fellow
Fellows: John Wallace, Bradford Wilcox, Mark Regnerus, Christian Smith, Stephen Monsma, Chris Elison, Jane Eisner
Research Fellows: Hara Wright-Smith, Nisha Botchwey, Catherine Wilson, Lia Fantuzzo, Marc Siegel, Alexis Sherman, Brett Tompkins
Byron Walker, Technical Consultant
Administrative Assistants: Sheria Sellers-Crawley, Camille Washington
Interns: Maite Amorebieta, Alan Atchinson, Chun Shin, Sumin Sohn, David Yim

CRRUCS, The Center for Research on Religion and Urban Civil Society, is part of the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania. Founded in 2000, CRRUCS is dedicated to producing and disseminating cutting-edge empirical knowledge about the role of religion in contemporary urban America. With an interdisciplinary team of Penn-based colleagues, and in close working partnerships with other major universities, think tanks, research intermediaries, and news organizations, CRRUCS focuses on how national and local faith-based organizations help to solve big-city social problems; how religion relates to contemporary urban political participation, civic engagement and social well-being; and how local congregations, grassroots ministries, and other communities of faith matter in the daily lives of disadvantaged urban children, youth, and families. The Center has published 13 CRRUCS reports, with two reports forthcoming in November.



Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion

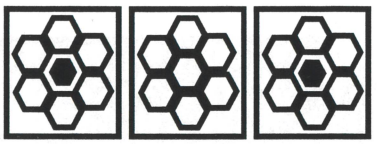
School of Law
Suite G310 Gambrell Hall
Emory University
1301 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30322
Phone: 404-712-8710
Fax: 404-712-8605
Email: jwiggins@law.emory.edu
URL: www.law.emory.edu/cisr

John Witte, Jr., Director
April Bogle, Director of Public Relations and Information
Eliza Ellison, Director of Projects and Research
Anita Mann, Director of Business and Finance
Amy Wheeler, Project Associate and Assistant Editor

The Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion at Emory University was established in the fall of 2000, on the strength of a generous five-year grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts and with matching funds and endowment support from Emory University.

The center is designed to stimulate and support advanced research and education on religious themes. The center focuses on the religious dimensions of professional, scientific, and humane learning and on the power and plasticity of religion as a set of norms and habits, ideas and institutions, methods and practices. Interdisciplinary and inter-religious in orientation, the center sponsors research fellowships, faculty seminars, cross-listed courses, scholarly projects and publications, and public lectures and conferences.

The current project of the center is on the theme "Sex, Marriage and Family and the Religions of the Book," which will culminate in a large international conference on the Emory campus on March 27-29, 2003. The conference will feature some eighty scholars from a variety of disciplines to outline and debate the issues surrounding marriage and family life. A follow-up project on children is planned for 2003-2005 and will be led by renowned theologian Martin Marty.



Center for the Study of Religion

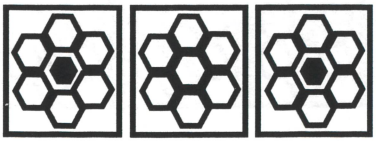
5 Ivy Lane
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08544
Phone: 609 258 5545
Fax: 609-258-6940
Email: askline@princeton.edu
URL: www.princeton.edu/~csrelig
Outreach Publications: *CSR Newsletter* (published annually)

Robert Wuthnow, Director
Marie Griffith, Associate Director
Anita Kline, Center Manager

The objective of the Center for the Study of Religion at Princeton University is to encourage greater intellectual exchange and interdisciplinary scholarly studies about religion among faculty and students in the humanities and social sciences.

The Center is committed to scholarly research and teaching that examines religion historically and normatively in its diverse manifestations. The Center aims to facilitate understanding of religion through an integrated program of support for Princeton faculty to pursue research and teaching on thematic projects, awards for Princeton graduate students to complete dissertation research, an interdisciplinary seminar, undergraduate courses, public lectures, and opportunities for visiting scholars to affiliate with the Center.

The Center for the Study of Religion builds on and consolidates Princeton University's unique resources in the humanities and social sciences. Faculty and students in a wide range of departments at Princeton have earned distinction for their scholarly contributions to the study of religion. In addition to Princeton's Department of Religion, which provides a nucleus of scholars with expertise in the world's major religions, more than fifty faculty members in a dozen other departments and programs contribute regularly to the understanding of religion through their various scholarly perspectives. These faculty are in Anthropology, Art and Archeology, Politics, Sociology, History, Classics, Philosophy, Music, Comparative Literature, English, Near Eastern Studies, East Asian Studies, Architecture, and Romance Languages, and in such programs as Creative Writing, Women's Studies, Latin American Studies, African American Studies, Medieval Studies, American Studies, and Jewish Studies, among others. The university's commitment to diversity, as well as its distinction as a private nonsectarian institution, makes Princeton particularly well-suited for this endeavor.



Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture

Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Cavanaugh Hall 341
425 University Blvd.
Indianapolis, IN 46202
317-274-8409
Fax: 317-278-3354
Email: raac@iupui.edu
URL: www.iupui.edu/~raac/
Outreach Publications: *News from the Center for the Study of Religion & American Culture*

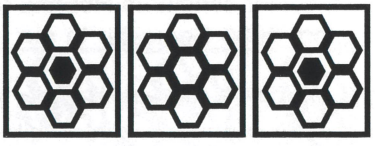
Philip Goff, Director
Thomas J. Davis, Journal Managing Editor
Rebecca Vasko, Program Coordinator
Sharon Mack, Secretary

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Cutlure is a research and public outreach institute devoted to the promotion of the understanding of the relation between religion and other features of American culture. Established in 1989, the Center is based in the School of Liberal Arts at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

Center activities include national conferences and symposia, essays, thematic bibliographies and research projects, fellowships for younger scholars, data-based communication about developments in the field of American religion, and a newsletter devoted to the promotion of Center activities. Its web site is consulted approximately one-half million times annually by those hoping to keep up on the latest developments in the study of religion and American culture.

As an important part of the public service provided by the Center, its officers are often called upon by print, radio, and television journalists covering stories about religion in American society. Utilizing the Center's considerable data base, the officers refer reporters to specialists throughout the nation when the topic requires it.

The Center enjoys a vigorous publication record. Thus far, it has produced ten commissioned books on a variety of topics. Its semiannual scholarly periodical, *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation,* remains at the top of the field after twelve years of publishing. It is especially well known for its review essays and an annual "forum" in which leading scholars address pressing issues in American religious studies.



Center for the Study of Religious Freedom

Virginia Wesleyan College
Clarke Academic Center
1584 Wesleyan Drive
Norfolk, VA 23502-5599
Phone: 757-455-3129
Fax: 757-455-2110
Email: csrf@vwc.edu, ccookson@vwc.edu
URL: www.vwc.edu/academics/CSRF
Outreach Publications: "Report From the Center" (newsletter)

Catharine Cookson, Director
Kelly Traylor Jackson, Administrative Assistant

The Center for the Study of Religious Freedom at Virginia Wesleyan College was established in 1996 by a confluence of college and community support to promote the education and foundation needed to meet the challenge of fostering religious freedom in a diverse world. The Center's academic programs and other undertakings are interdisciplinary and interfaith in nature. Through education and outreach efforts, the Center seeks to transform individuals and communities as people discover their common human experiences, hopes, and needs, while yet learning to live peacefully with their profound religious differences. During its first six years, the Center sponsored a remarkable 124 public educational events, including semester-long symposia featuring renowned scholars. In 2002 it published *Religious Freedom, Southern Style,* a collection of essays from the 2001 symposium.

Current activities: NEXUS, an uncommon interfaith dialogue; conference on ethics of stem cell use and research; teacher workshops (middle and high school); monographs; educational symposiums on wide range of issues regarding religious freedom and religion, geared to a community audience; proposal for a certificate program in religious freedom studies, for campus and community members, to include course work, conflict mediation processes, and internships/faith community service work.

Recognition:

25th Anniversary Virginia Foundation Award for Religion and the Humanities, given by the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities. Under the theme of "Building Bridges, Sowing Seeds," the Center was chosen for its accomplishments and contributions in bridging the gap between the academic and scholarly world and the public life of Virginians.

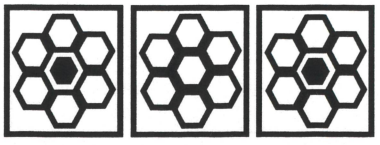
Distinguished Merit Citation, given by the National Conference for Community and Justice, Virginia Region, Tidewater Chapter, "in recognition and appreciation for continuing humanitarian contributions to the greater Tidewater community" (2001).

2001 Human Rights Award, given by the Virginia Beach Human Rights Commission, "for your support of human rights programs in our community" (2001).

Joseph H. "Buddy" Strelitz Community Service Award, given to the NEXUS program by the Jewish Community Center of South Hampton Roads (2002).

Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence, administered by the Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), enabled Professor Yosef Tobi, a senior scholar in Hebrew and Comparative Literature, University of Haifa, Israel, to offer courses in the Spring, 2000 Semester to our students and offer programs to the local community.

The Center's Director received the YWCA of Hampton Roads Women of Distinction 2001 Award, in the category of religion, for her work at the Center in promoting inter-faith understanding and religious freedom.



Center for the Study of Science & Religion at Columbia University

3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-851-1825
Fax: 212-851-1829
Email: cssr@columbia.edu
URL: www.columbia.edu/cu/cssr
Outreach Publications: Bi-annual newsletter, *CSSR News,* on programs and people involved in the Center for the Study of Science & Religion.

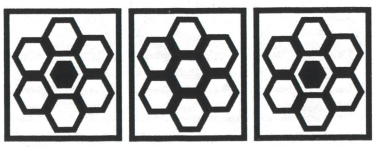
Robert Pollack, Director
Andrea Villanti, Program Coordinator
Elise Adibi, Administrative Assistant
Marco Gottardo, Graduate Research Assistant
Mirian Pak, Undergraduate Research Assistant
Anna Battis, Undergraduate Research Assistant

"The most practical and important thing about a man [sic] is still his view of the universe . . . The question is not whether the theory of the cosmos affects matters, but whether, in the long run, anything else does."
William James, epigraph to "Pragmatism."

William James's view is central to the developing agenda of the CSSR: if the great intellectual endeavor that is the academic enterprise of Columbia University is to affect matters—not just understand them, quantify them, and publish discoveries about them; but also change them for the better—then the "views of the universe" of our faculty and our students are as important as their publications and discoveries.

From its inception in 1999, the CSSR has been laying the intellectual, structural and fiscal foundations for this agenda, while at the same time expanding its purview at the university and beyond with a highly successful series of public events and curricular enhancements. That foundational work turns out to have been propitious, as the CSSR has just been brought into the new Earth Institute of Columbia University, a major initiative on global sustainable development headed by Economics Professor Jeffrey Sachs. At the same time, our move this September to renovated space in the neighboring quadrangle of Union Theological Seminary will bring the CSSR into daily contact with the Seminary's students and faculty, as well with the faculty of the Columbia and Barnard Departments of Religion.

As the CSSR thus becomes more deeply immersed in both Religion and Science, we look to friends and colleagues at other Centers for advice and support.



Center on Religion and Democracy

University of Virginia
PO Box 400178
Charlottesville, VA 22901
Phone: 434-243-5511
Fax: 434-243-5590
URL: http://religionanddemocracy.lib.virginia.edu
Outreach Publications: *InSight, CoRD Digest*

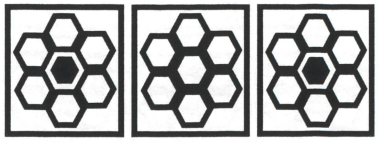
James Hunter, Executive Director
Joe Davis, Co-Director
Steve Jones, Associate Director
Suellen Hill, Fiscal administrator
Heather Connelly, Events Coordinator
Nicole Martin, Receptionist

The Center on Religion and Democracy is a politically non-partisan research center at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia, committed to addressing the complex relationship between religion and democratic culture.

Although the Center's principal goal will always be the pursuit of knowledge through objective, non-partisan scholarship, such a quest should hardly be merely academic. It is our commitment to help bridge the gap between theory and practice, to make the critical insights and resources of this center available to everyone concerned with the challenges of the day.

More than 100 organizations deal with some aspect of the relationship between religion and politics in the United States. But of those organizations, nearly all are politically partisan, protecting one flank or another in the culture war. Only one or two academically based organizations study the broad role of religion in American political life. Therefore, despite the critical importance of these issues, the Center stands very nearly alone in pursuit of their study.

The Center's aim is to provide timely and empirically grounded scholarship that stimulates public learning, strengthens public policy considerations and helps religious communities themselves re-envision a constructive role in the public square of democracy. The scholarship of the Center is pursued along a disciplined, two-year academic cycle of research, engagement and dissemination. Each cycle focuses on one important component of the larger relationship between religion and democratic life.



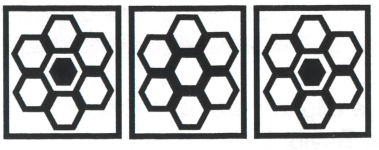
Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism

1135 Flanner Hall
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5611
Phone: 574-631-5441
Fax: 574-631-8471
Email: cushwa.1@nd.edu
URL: www.nd.edu/~cushwa/
Outreach Publications: "American Catholic Studies Newsletter"

Timothy Matovina, Director
Kathleen Sprows Cummings, Associate Director
Paula Brach, Senior Administrative Assistant

Founded by historian Jay Dolan in 1975, the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism is widely recognized as the leading center for the historical study of Roman Catholicism in the United States. Cushwa Center seminars, conferences, and research projects, many of which produce scholarly volumes or popular educational publications, engage a national body of historians and colleagues from theology, women's studies, sociology, religious studies, and anthropology. The public role of the Center encompasses providing resources and critical commentary for media coverage of U.S. Catholicism and collaborating with church leaders and pastoral workers to enhance the vitality of Catholic life in the United States. Most recently, this public role was exemplified when Cushwa Center director Scott Appleby conducted countless interviews with major media outlets regarding the sexual abuse crisis in U.S. Catholicism, providing balanced and insightful analysis that culminated in his superb keynote address to the U.S. Catholic bishops at their June 2002 meeting in Dallas. In all aspects of its mission—research, teaching and faculty development, and public service—the Cushwa Center seeks interdisciplinary and ecumenical cooperation.

The fourteen books published to date in the Notre Dame Studies in American Catholicism series, as well as specialized studies of the Irish experience in America, the growth of Hispanic Catholicism in the United States, and the history of Catholic parish life, have built the Cushwa Center's reputation. Increasingly, the Center is also winning recognition for important interdisciplinary research in American religion and culture, the experiences of women in American religious history, the impact of the Second Vatican Council on the American Catholic community, and the public presences and diverse religious practices of U.S. Catholic women and men in the twentieth century. Cushwa Center programs include its bi-annual Newsletter and its popular Seminar in American Religion, as well as special projects like the Cushwa Center Studies of Catholicism in Twentieth-Century America book series, recently launched with Cornell University Press. Forthcoming initiatives include a March 2003 conference on U.S. Catholicism in international contexts and a conference on African American Catholics in spring 2004.



J. M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies

Baylor University
P. O. Box 97308
Waco, Texas 76798-7308
Phone: 254-710-1510
Fax: 254-710-1571
Email: Derek_Davis@baylor.edu
URL: www3.baylor.edu/Church_State/

Derek H. Davis, Director
Marc H. Ellis, University Professor and Director of the Center of American and Jewish Studies
Barry G. Hankins, Associate Professor of History and Church-State Studies
Caleb O. Oladipo, Assistant Professor of Church-State Studies and Assistant Director of African Studies
Charles A. McDaniel, Interim Associate Director
Elena Miroshnikova, Visiting Professor
Wanda Gilbert, Administrative Assistant
Janice Losak, Administrative Assistant
Pat Cornett, Editorial Assistant

Baylor University established the J. M. Dawson Institute of Church-State Studies in 1957, so named in honor of Baylor alumnus Joseph M. Dawson, an ardent advocate of religious liberty and distinquished author of many publications on church and state. From its inception, the stated purpose of the Institute has been to stimulate academic interest and encourage research and publications in the broad area of church-state relations, which has been described as "the greatest subject in the history of the West." In carrying out its statement of purpose, the Institute has sought to honor a threefold commitment: to be interfaith, interdisciplinary, and international. The Institute provides many resources and services to scholars researching issues at the intersection of religious and public life, including: the Church-State Research Center, which houses more than 15,000 books on church-state relations and religious liberty; the Center for Constitutional Studies; the publication of books, monographs, and a scholarly journal; the sponsorship of distinguished lectureships, conferences, and symposia; national and international consultation; and graduate degree programs. The J. M. Dawson Institute offers both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Church-State studies.

In addition to quarterly publication of the *Journal of the Church and State,* the Institute also publishes a wide variety of books and other materials on church-state issues that include contributions from some of the most renowned scholars in the field. Recent publications include *New Religious Movements and Religious Liberty in America, Church-State Relations and Religious Liberty in Mexico, Welfare Reform and Faith-Based Organizations, Religious Liberty in Northern Europe in the Twenty-first Century,* and the soon-to-be published *International Perspectives on Freedom and Equality of Religious Belief,* which provides a focused, yet comprehensive look at the status of religious freedom in strategic locations around the globe.

The J. M. Dawson Institute has recently initiated a major research project into the identification and evaluation of the causes of genocide and genocidal movements within various cultures throughout the world. Dr. Derek H. Davis, director of the Institute, is working with various groups that have come together for the desired purpose of helping to eradicate this resurgent and abhorent cultural phenomenon. The Institute is developing a body of data and literature on the causes and consequences of past attempts at genocide in order to provide scholars with the necessary resources to better understand, and thus to combat, this persistent social problem.

In addition, the Dawson Institute is aligned with the Center for American-Jewish Studies, headed by Dr. Marc H. Ellis, which was established by Baylor University in 1999 in order to create a vital forum for the discussion of religion and public life both in the United States and on the international scene as well as to establish a leading center for the study of Judaism and Jewish life among Christian-identified institutions of higher learning. The common objectives of the J. M. Dawson Institute and the Center for American-Jewish Studies often lead to collaborative efforts in the sponsorship of conferences and symposia and the publication of materials related to the role of religion in society.

Garrett-Medill Center for Religion and the News Media

2121 SheridanRoad
Evanston, IL. 60201
Phone: 847-866-3960
Fax: 847-866-3957
Email: rlarson@Garrett.edu

Roy Larson, Director

The Garrett-Medill Center was founded in 1995 as a joint project of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.

Its mission is to enhance the quality of the media's coverage of religion, spirituality, and ethics.

The Center has sponsored seven national professional development conferences for journalists, religious leaders, and religion scholars. It has also produced a research study, "Media Coverage of Religion, Spirituality and Values/1999."

The Center has been the chief consultant for both schools in offering classes in Religion and the News Media. For the last two years, the Center has designed an eight-week intensive summer specialization course for a select group of five Medill graduate students and five mid-career religion journalists.

The Center's projects have included:

- A forum, Women in Religion—As Seen and Heard by the Media
- Host, Religion and Politics—the Annual Convention of the Religion Newswriters Association
- The 'R' Factor: the Hidden Religion Dimension in Today's News—a conference for journalists
- Covering Religion in the 21st Century—a conference for religion writers
- The Changing Newsroom and its Implications for Religious Leaders—a conference for religious leaders
- Religion in an Age of 'Whatever: Reporting on Children, Youth and Young Adults—a conference for religion writers
- The Minister; the Media and the Message: Media Coverage of the 1999 Trial of the Rev. Gregory Dell—a conference for journalists, religious leaders and scholars
- Media Coverage of Religion, Spirituality, and Values/1999—a two-year content analysis of the media's coverage of religion in local and national newspapers, television newscasts, and newsweeklies
- A national conference announcing and discussing the results of the two-year study, Media Coverage of Religion, Spirituality and Values/1999
- A conference at Tribune Tower for Chicago-area Religious Leaders

Publications

- "The 'R' Factor: The Hidden Religion Dimension in Today's News—Report on the Conference"
- "Covering Religion in the 21st Century—Report on the Conference"
- Religion in an Age of 'Whatever': Reporting on Children, Youth and Young Adults—Report on the Conference"
- "The Minister, the Media and the Message: Media Coverage of the March 1999 Trial of the Rev. Gregory Dell—Report on the Conference"
- "Media Coverage of Religion, Spirituality, and Values/1999"

The Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life

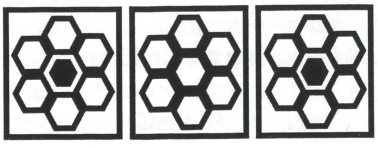
Trinity College
300 Summit Street
Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: 860-297-2353
Fax: 860-297-5125
Email: csrpl@trincoll.edu
URL: www.trincoll.edu/
Outreach Publications: *Religion in the News*

Mark Silk, Director
Andrew Walsh, Associate Director
Dennis Hoover, Resident Fellow
Christine McMorris, Administrative Assistant

The Leonard E. Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life was established at Trinity College in 1996 to advance knowledge and understanding of the varied roles that religious movements, institutions, and ideas play in the contemporary world; to explore challenges posed by religious pluralism and tensions between religious and secular values; and to examine the influence of religion on politics, civic culture, family life, gender roles, and other issues in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Non-sectarian and non-partisan, the Center sponsors public lectures, organizes conferences and workshops, contributes to the liberal arts curriculum, and supports the publication and dissemination of materials for both academic and general audiences. Its initiatives are designed to foster discussion of religion in public life both within the campus community and among various external publics.

The Center publishes *Religion in the News,* a thrice-yearly magazine that covers media reporting of religion, as part of its program on religion and the news media. *Religion in the News* circulates to religion scholars and to journalists at every daily newspaper in the country as well as at news operations in the 40 largest media markets, news magazines, and journals of opinion.

Currently the Center is engaged in a project, "Religion by Region," that will offer the first integrated assessment of the role of religion in the public life of the different regions of the United States. The project, which will result in the publication of nine volumes covering all 50 states, is supported by Lilly Endowment.



Hartford Institute for Religion Research

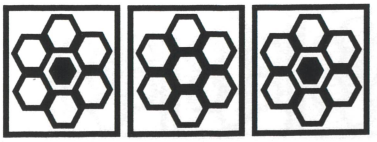
Hartford Seminary
77 Sherman Street
Hartford, CT 06105
Phone: 860/509-9500
Fax: 860/509-9551
Email: hirr@hartsem.edu
URL: www.hartsem.edu
Outreach Publications: see the Institute's Web-site: www.hirr.hartsem.edu

David A. Roozen, Director
Core faculty: Nancy T. Ammerman, Carl S. Dudley, David A. Roozen,
Cynthia Woolever (beginning fall, 2003)
Adair Lummis, Scott Thumma, Faculty Associates
Mary Jane Ross, Administrative Assistant
Sheryl Wiggins, Secretary

The Hartford Institute for Religion Research (HIRR) has a thirty year record of rigorous, sociologically grounded, leadership orientated research; tracking emerging trends; creative dissemination and utilization of research findings; bridging and networking among the academic and applied social research communities, and advocacy for the study of religious organizations in general and congregations in particular as carriers of faith. In these thirty years the institute has initiated more than 75 projects supported by more than $10 million in external funding from over twenty-five organizations.

Research is at the heart of what the institute does. Nevertheless, communication and utilization of project findings receives the same creative attention. Groundbreaking studies on the movement of women into clergy roles and the on-going assessment of trends in church membership are two of the many ways in which HIRR has tracked how people of faith are forming and re-forming their institutions. Changes in theological education also has received the institute's on-going attention, as have the dynamics and community contributions of congregations. Institute personnel and projects have pioneered methods for the study of congregations, including the largest national, interfaith survey of faith communities today (14,401 congregations; 41 denominations and faith groups) and the HIRR Summer Institute for Congregational Studies. National and regional denominational structures, and inter-faith relations are more recent foci of the institute's special interest in religious organizations.

Current major grant projects include: Organizing Religious Work for the 21st Century: Exploring Denominationalism —studies of the ways congregations in seven locations use connections with other groups to support their mission and work, and of national and regional structures of eight denominations; Faith Communities Today (FACT)—the above noted survey, see fact.hartsem.edu for details including the opportunity to interactive with the data; and The Development of Research Based Learning Communities Supported By Electronic Pedagogy—using research findings to enhance the leadership of persons who teach congregational studies, national denomination executives and communicators, judicatory leaders, congregational researchers, and public and media users of the Hartford Institute web site.



The Paul B. Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI 49546
Phone: 616-9576870
Fax: 616-957-6503
Email: henry@calvin.edu
URL: www.calvin.edu/henry
Outreach Publications: Annual Newsletter

Corwin Smidt, Director
Melissa Fritsch, Administrative Assistant:
Program Manager (position currently vacant)

The Henry Institute was created in September 1997 to honor and continue the work of Paul Henry, who taught political science at Calvin College and who served as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from January 1985 to his untimely death in July 1993 at age 53.

The mission of The Henry Institute is twofold in nature: to promote the study of the interplay between Christianity and politics and to help educate a new generation of Christian scholars and public servants engaged in its study and practice.

With regard to promoting scholarship, The Henry Institute has launched several initiatives: (1) It has organized and hosted its first biennial Symposium on Religion and Politics this past May which drew approximately 125 scholars to the campus to present their research related to the study of religion and politics; (2) It has launched a data archive of national surveys that relate to the study of religion and politics within the American context; (3) It has organized special topic conferences (e.g., "Religion, Social Capital, and Democratic Life"), and (4) It has launched a major cooperative study involving approximately thirty different scholars and focusing on the role of clergy in American political life.

With regard to promoting a new generation of scholars and practitioners, The Henry Institute has instituted several programs as well. First, it has established the Henry Semester in Washington, D.C. Program at Calvin College. Second, it has inaugurated a biennial graduate student workshop on religion and American public life. Third, it has maintained a yearly program of guest lecture presentations (usually three per semester) on the campus of Calvin College. And, finally, it anticipates that it will launch a "student fellows" program within the next year or two.

Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals

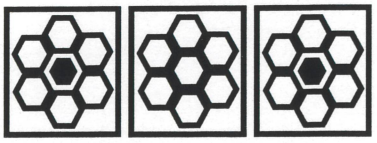
Wheaton College
Wheaton, IL 60187
Phone: 630-752-7005
Fax: 630-752-5516
Email: isae@wheaton.edu
URL: www.wheaton.edu/isae/
Outreach Publications: "Evangelical Studies Bulletin"

Edith L. Blumhofer, Director
Larry Eskridge, Assoc. Director
Katri Delac, Research & Resource Assistant
Mark A. Noll, Sr. Advisor

The origins of the Institute for the Study of American Evangelicals (ISAE) are traced to the efforts of evangelical historians Mark A. Noll of Wheaton College and Nathan O. Hatch of the University of Notre Dame who were awarded a small grant from Lilly Endowment in 1979 to fund a conference on "The Bible in America." The ISAE was officially created in 1982 through a planning grant from Lilly with Joel A. Carpenter as its first full-time director. Since that time, the Institute has sought to encourage academic reflection about the historic and contemporary role evangelicals play within American culture as well as to aid evangelicals in their understanding of their own tradition. The ISAE is a constituent program of Wheaton College with its own self-appointed advisory board. It funds the majority of its core operating expenses through endowment income, while relying upon grants from foundations and gifts from individual donors to cover the balance and fund ISAE-developed programs and projects.

There are a number of facets to the work of the ISAE—the Institute offers seminars on courses on American religious history for Wheaton College undergraduates and grad students; sponsors lectures for the Wheaton community; produces a quarterly academic newsletter, the Evangelical Studies Bulletin (circulation, 1,500); maintains a website which provides information on ISAE news and projects as well as resources and links dealing with American evangelicalism (http://www.wheaton.edu/isae); and serves as a resource on contemporary American evangelicalism for the news media. Far and away, however, the most prominent aspect of the Institute's work has been its series of research projects dealing with evangelicalism and the larger sphere of American religion. Over the last two decades the Institute has guided numerous major projects to completion and has been the driving force behind eighteen volumes illuminating such topics as revivalism, evangelical theological education, religion and American politics, the evangelical relationship to science, and evangelical views on money and materialism.

Forthcoming volumes from recently-completed ISAE conferences include Grant Wacker and Daniel Bays, eds., *Foreign Seeds, American Harvest: The American Missionary Enterprise* (Alabama), as well as three separate volumes stemming from a just-concluded project on American Protestant Hymnody in varied stages of the publication process at Alabama, Illinois, and Eerdmans. Currently, the ISAE has a major proposal under consideration with the Lilly Endowment for a project that would explore the history and development of confessional "European" Christian traditions in North America and the manner in which they have interacted with evangelical forms of Christianity.



Institute for the Study of American Religion

Box 90709
Santa Barbara, CA 92190-0709
Phone No.: 805-961-0141
Fax No.: 805-683-4876
Email: jgordon@linkline.org

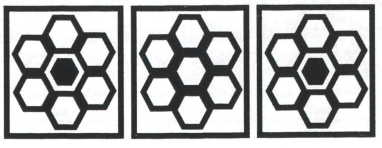
J. Gordon Melton, Director
Suzette Parrin, Office Manager
Research Assistant, position open until fall

The Institute for the Study of American Religion was founded in 1969 to study the spectrum of religious organizations then functioning in the United States. It soon expanded its concerns to include Canada and in the 1990s Europe, and more recently the world. It has also become part of an international network of centers focusing research on new religious movements that includes INFORM (London), CESNUR (Turin) and the Hong Kong Institute for Culture, Commerce and Religion.

ISAR has been responsible for the publication of some 250 books and monographs, including *The Encyclopedia of American Religions* (1979, 7th edition, 2002), *The Encyclopedia of African-American Religion* (1993), and the four-volume *Religions of the World: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of Belief and Practice* (2002).

ISAR works closely with Davidson Library at the University of California-Santa Barbara. In 1985, when ISAR relocated to California, it placed its 50,000-volume collection in the Library where it has become the American Religions Collection (ARC). ISAR has continued to grow ARC (adding more than 10,000 volumes over the succeeding years). The collection has been catalogued and may be accessed on-line. ISAR's Director operates as a consultant to the ARC.

Among its current projects, ISAR is currently organizing a project with Chinese scholars to study "The Future of Religion in China," the first session being held Sept. 12-14, 2002, in Beijing, and is cooperating with the Center for Gay and Lesbian Studies and Religion in Berkeley, California, to produce an Encyclopedia of Homosexuality and Religion in America.

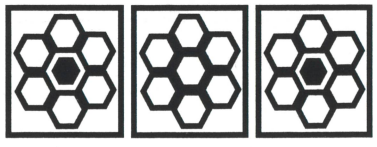


Institute for the Study of Emotion

M05 Dodd Hail
Florida State University
Tallahassee, FL, 32306-1520
Institute telephone: 850-644-5718
Director's telephone: 850-6448094
Fax: 850-644-7225
Email: john.corrigan@fsu.edu
URL: www.fsu.edu/~ise

John Corrigan, Director
Ait Remillaid, Assistant to the Director

The ISE was founded in 2001 for the purpose of advancing multidisciplinary research on emotion and for translating that research into publications, classroom initiatives and public programs. It is our hope that the ISE will serve as a platform for an array of projects, and that it will expedite communication of research across disciplines and abet the translation of scholarly findings into formats accessible by nonspecialists. As the new study of emotion progresses, we prospect a role in steering it towards its full potential as a pathway to understanding human life and culture, towards what it promises through rigorous academic investigation and creative exploration, towards its emergence as a truly twenty-first century project not confined to exclusivistic or elite disciplinary and professional discourses. The agenda of the Institute for its first five years includes projects in the areas of religious studies (religious hatred) as well as history and psychology (war and emotion). The lecture series for 2002-2003 is on the topic of gender and emotion, and will include speakers working in religious studies, psychology, women's studies, and history. The Institute is seeking funding for conferences and post-doctoral fellowships.

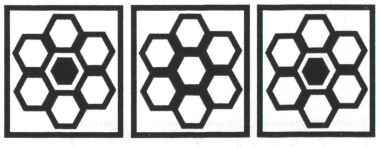


Kentucky Initiative for the Study of Religion

300 Cherry Hall
Western Kentucky University
1 Big Red Way
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Phone: 270-745-3136
Fax: 270-745-5261
Email: lawrence.snyder@wku.edu

Lawrence (Larry) Snyder, Acting Director

The Kentucky Initiative for the Study of Religion (KISR) endeavors to support and expand the mission of the Western Kentucky University undergraduate program in Religious Studies as it seeks to "promote the academic study of religion." The Initiative has three foci: first, to promote the scholarly study of religion in Kentucky and surrounding states (Regional Emphasis); second, to enhance general initiatives of the Religious Studies program related to teaching and research (General Emphasis); and third, to educate the public about contemporary issues of religious diversity in the region and beyond (Outreach Emphasis). The mission of KISR is accomplished through the collection, preservation, research, and interpretation of historical documents and objects; the support of research and travel for both students and faculty; and the sponsorship of forums and colloquia for the public discussion of religion in public life. Furthermore, as WKU remains the only public university in Kentucky to offer a major in Religious Studies, KISR intends to further the visibility and leadership of the department in the Commonwealth by providing resources for scholarship and opportunities for public education about the role of religion in contemporary American culture.



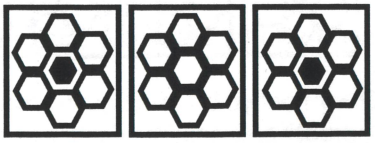
The Law and Religion Program

Emory University School of Law
Gambrell Hall – Room G572
1301 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30322
Phone: 404-727-6504
Fax: 404-727-3374
Email: lking@law.emory.edu
URL: www.law.emory.edu/lawrel

John Witte, Jr., Director
Frank Alexander, Co-Director
Michael J. Broyde, Academic Director
Linda King, Administrative Assistant

The Law and Religion Program at Emory University is designed to explore the religious dimensions of law, the legal dimensions of religion, and the interaction of legal and religious ideas and methods. Established in 1982, the program provides students and faculty with unique forms and forums of interdisciplinary study. Through a variety of specialty courses and clinics, projects and publications, colloquia and conferences, the program seeks to cultivate integrated forms of knowledge and holistic understandings of the legal and religious professions. The program is ecumenical and comparative in perspective, with emphasis on the religious traditions of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam, and the legal traditions of the Atlantic continents.

The Law and Religion Program pursues several multi-year research projects, funded by external benefactors, that bring Emory scholars into collaboration with hundreds of scholars from around the world. The Religion and Human Rights Project, funded by the Ford Foundation, explores the relationship between human rights and religion and related values and institutions in different parts of the world and is now implementing a fellowship program in Islam and human rights. The Steinhardt Foundation has underwritten a series of projects on law, religion and the family and a project on the translation and commentary on the modern Jewish law code, Aruch HaSchulchan. Lilly Endowment has funded a major research project on law, religion, and the Reformed tradition that will produce four monographs and scores of lectures and articles on marriage, human rights, social welfare and nation-building, particularly during the Protestant reformations of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Generous grants from The Pew Charitable Trusts have enabled the Program to pursue projects on Christianity and Democracy, Human Rights in the World Today, The Problem and Promise of Proselytism in the New Democratic World Order, and Religion and Religious Liberty in Russia. This fall, the Program is hosting a conference on Christian Jurisprudence and one on Restrictions of Religious Freedom.



The Louisville Institute

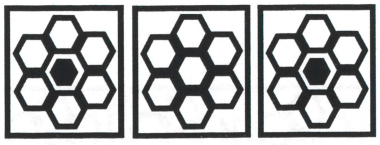
1044 Alta Vista Road
Louisville, KY 40205
Phone: 502-895-3411
Fax: 502-894-2286
Email : info@louisville-institute.org
URL: www.louisville-institute.org

Jim Lewis, Director
Bill Brosend, Associate Director
Suzanne Case, Administrative Secretary
Keri Leichty, Administrative Secretary

Launched in 1990 by a major grant from Lilly Endowment to Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, the Louisville Institute shares with the Endowment's Religion Division the desire to support people and organizations striving to generate knowledge, communicate insights, nurture practices, and renew and sustain institutions that enhance the religious lives of American Christians and strengthen pastoral leadership. The distinctive mission of the Louisville Institute is to enrich the religious life of American Christians and to encourage the revitalization of their institutions, by bringing together those who lead religious institutions with those who study them, so that the work of each might inform and strengthen the work of the other. We seek to fulfill this mission by means of two major strategies.

1) We make grants to scholars, pastors and other religious leaders, academic institutions, church bodies, and selected other non-profit organizations. The Louisville Institute offers funding through six competitive grant programs. They include: Summer Stipend, Dissertation Fellowship, Christian Faith and Life Sabbatical Grant, Religious Institutions Sabbatical Grant, Sabbatical Grants for Pastoral Leaders, and a new First Book Grant Program for Minority Scholars. In addition to these competitive grant programs, the Louisville Institute's General Grants Program supports a limited number of individual and collaborative research and leadership education projects.

2) We convene conferences and other opportunities for conversation among religious leaders and academic researchers. Of particular note is our national Pastors Working Group, convened in cooperation with Lilly Endowment.



The Martin Marty Center

The Martin Marty Center
University of Chicago Divinity School
1025 East 58th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637
Phone: 773-702-7049
Fax: 773-702-8223
Email: w-gilpin@uchicago.edu
URL: marty-center.uchicago.edu

Outreach Publications: "Sightings" – A biweekly electronic editorial, providing commentary on topics of current interest from leading scholars in the field of religious studies.

W. Clark Gilpin, Director of the Martin Marty Center and Margaret E. Burton Professor of the History of Christianity and Theology in the Divinity School
Jennifer Quijano Sax, Assistant to the Director of the Martin Marty Center and Director of Communications and Public Relations for the Divinity School
Sandy Crane, Secretary of the Martin Marty Center
Elizabeth Alvarez, Editor of "Sightings"

The Martin Marty Center is an institute for the advanced study of religion at the University of Chicago Divinity School. The center supports research in all major fields of the academic study of religion and encourages interdisciplinary approaches that incorporate the work of theologians, ethicists, literary scholars, social scientists, and historians. It provides space and administrative support for faculty research projects, visiting scholars, advanced graduate students, and public conferences.

In its work, the Marty Center seeks to enhance a distinguished tradition in the Divinity School's larger history, namely, a commitment to scholarship that relates religion to issues of broad human importance and that interprets the role that religion plays—for good and for ill—in world cultures.

The Marty Center brings together advanced scholars in religion and public groups drawn from religious communities, the professions, civil society, and other parts of higher education. It does so from the conviction that the best and most innovative scholarship in religion and theology emerges from sustained dialogue with the wider society. The Marty Center leadership believes that when students and faculty critically examine the broad human significance of the scholarship to which they have devoted themselves, they will increase the intellectual scope and profundity of their work. Furthermore, when citizens are invited to explore civic life, under the aegis of the Marty Center, from the vantage point of serious scholarship on religion, they will encounter fresh and revised perspectives on culture and the common good.

Both on its own and in concert with other institutions, the Marty Center hosts and coordinates a variety of special projects. These range from lecture series or conferences a few days in length to major interdisciplinary endeavors running for several years. Current research projects hosted by the Marty Center include:

The Religion, Culture, and Family Project, supported by Lilly Endowment, Inc., and directed by Don S. Browning.

The Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, supported by the Pew Charitable Trusts and directed by Jean Bethke Elshtain in cooperation with the Brookings Institution and Georgetown University.

The Workshop on Public Theology, supported by the Marty Center and directed by W. Clark Gilpin and Robert C. Saler.

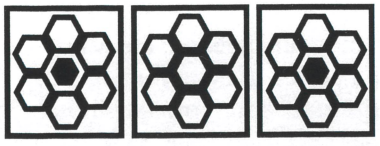
The Chicago Forum on Pedagogy and the Study of Religion, directed by Lucy Pick.

McNamara Center for the Social Study of Religion

Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology
Loyola University Chicago
6525 N. Sheridan Rd.
Chicago, IL 60626
Phone: 773-508-8709
Fax: 773-508-8854
Email: fkniss@luc.edu
URL: www.luc.edu/depts/sociology/mcnamara/

Fred Kniss, Director and Associate Professor of Sociology
Paul Numrich, Associate Research Professor
Randal Hepner, Project Manager for Religion, Immigration and Civil Society in Chicago
Katrina Hoop, Administrative Assistant
Nori Henk, Research Assistant

The McNamara Center supports scholarly activities in the social study of religion and inquiry from any disciplinary perspective that examines religion as a social phenomenon. The Center was established in 1998 by Loyola's Department of Sociology and Anthropology, with support from Loyola's College of Arts and Sciences and the Graduate School. The McNamara Center houses faculty research projects and grants, supports graduate students working on dissertations, and sponsors a variety of special events. Current research projects include Religion, Immigration and Civil Society in Chicago (funded by The Pew Charitable Trusts), Enhancing Access to Culturally Competent Health Care for Buddhist and Hindu Patients (funded by the Donors Forum), and The Church Next Door (funded by the Louisville Institute). Recurrent special events include the Chicago Area Group for the Study of Religious Communities (a quarterly seminar) and an annual Sociology of Religion Lecture Series open to the university and the public. The McNamara Center invites interested Loyola faculty and graduate students to become Associates of the Center. Faculty Associates and Student Associates comprise an ongoing intellectual community sharing interests in the social study of religion. They participate in periodic brown bag lunches to discuss their research interests and activities. They have access to research space and resources, as available.



The Pluralism Project

Harvard University
201 Vanserg, 25 Francis Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
Phone: 617-496-2481
Fax: 617-496-242
URL: www.pluralism.org
Outreach publications: We maintain an informational e-list & send out periodic updates on our research. Subscription is available online at http: //www.pluralism.org/contact/

Diana L. Eck, Director
Grove Harris, Project Manager
Elinor Pierce, Research Director

The Pluralism Project: World Religions in America

In the past thirty years the religious landscape of the United States has changed radically. There are Islamic centers and mosques, Hindu and Buddhist temples and meditation centers in virtually every major American city. The encounter between people of very different religious traditions takes place in the proximity of our own cities and neighborhoods. The results of the 2000 census underscore the tremendous scope of ethnic change in our society, but tell us little about its religious dimensions or its religious significance.

Pluralism has long been a generative strand of American ideology. Mere diversity or plurality alone, however, does not constitute pluralism. There is lively debate over the implications of our multicultural and multireligious society in civic, religious, and educational institutions. How we appropriate plurality to shape a positive pluralism is one of the most important questions American society faces in the years ahead. It will require all of us to know much more about the new religious landscape of America than we presently know.

The Pluralism Project: World Religions in America is a decade-long research project, with current funding from the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations, to engage students in studying the new religious diversity in the United States. We will explore particularly the communities and religious traditions of Asia and the Middle East that have become woven into the religious fabric of the United States in the past twenty-five years. The overall aims of the Pluralism Project are:

1. To document and better understand the changing contours of American religious demography, focusing especially on those cities and towns where the new plurality has been most evident and discerning the ways in which this plurality is both visible and invisible in American public life.

2. To study the religious communities themselves—their temples, mosques, gurudwaras and retreat centers, their informal networks and emerging institutions, their forms of adaptation and religious education in the American context, their encounter with the other religious traditions of our common society, and their encounter with civic institutions.

3. To explore the ramifications and implications of America's new plurality through case studies of particular cities and towns, looking at the response of Christian and Jewish communities to their new neighbors; the development of interfaith councils and networks; the new theological and pastoral questions that emerge from the pluralistic context; and the recasting of traditional church-state issues in a wider context.

4. To discern, in light of this work, the emerging meanings of religious "pluralism," both for religious communities and for public institutions, and to consider the real challenges and opportunities of a public commitment to pluralism in the light of the new religious contours of America.

Our work includes the research of our nationwide network of affiliate researchers, the "In the News" searchable database of summaries available online at www.pluralism.org, the "Directory of Religious Centers" which includes web links and center profiles including photographs, outreach to teachers, and conferences on Women's Networks in Multi-Religious America.

Southwest Institute on Religion and Civil Society

1915 Roma NE, SSCI #1078
Albuquerque, NM 87131-1166
Phone: 505-277-3945
Fax: 505-277-8805
URL: under construction—to be www.sircs.unm.edu

Richard L. Wood, Director
Mozafar Banihashemi, Research Associate, focusing on religion and civil society in the U.S. and Islamic societies
Lora Stone, Research Associate, focusing on faith-based community organizing in the United States

The Southwest Institute on Religion and Civil Society was recently founded to focus on the intersection of religion and democracy in the contemporary world. Current personnel focus on analyzing faith-based community organizing in the United States and on efforts to provide coherent Islamic intellectual grounding for the democratization project in Iran. SIRCS provides a forum for both specialized and public intellectual work on religion, politics, and the democratic public arena. Current work includes a study of congregational development through systematic engagement in the public arena, funded by the Ford Foundation and pursued in partnership with Interfaith Funders. Funding is currently being sought for a project on democratic currents in Islamic societies and a project on faith-based community organizing in Latin America. Richard Wood is author of *Faith in Action: Religion, Race, and Democratic Organizing in America* (University of Chicago Press, 2002).

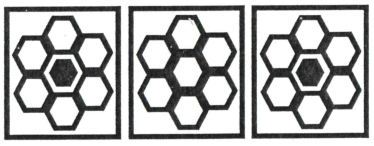
Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi

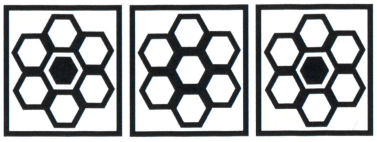
University of Mississippi
University, MS 38677
Phone: 662-915-5993
Fax: 662-915-5814
Email: cssc@olemiss.edu
Outreach Publications: *Southern Register*

Charles Reagan Wilson, Director
Ann Abedie, Associate Director
Susan Glisson, Assistant Director

Center for the Study of Southern Culture was founded in 1977, and its mission is to investigate, document, interpret, and teach about the American South. The Center emphasizes the interdisciplinary study of the South as a culturally, historically, geographically, and demographically complex region. At the heart of the Center's mission is the academic program. Its undergraduate and graduate curricula incorporate traditional disciplines of the arts, humanities, and social sciences to form an interdisciplinary framework. The Center promotes research on the South's varied cultures by supporting the work of its faculty, staff, students, and visiting scholars. It offers to the public, as well as to the academic community, opportunities for increasing knowledge of Southern culture through publications, conferences, lectures, and archives.

Religious studies has always been a prominent part of he Center's agenda. It sponsored or cosponsored symposia on "Religion in the South" (1983) and "Religion and the American Civil War" (1993). Its academic program includes undergraduate and graduate courses in religion in the South. Its Documentary Studies project uses photography, film, and oral history to document religion in Mississippi, especially African American religion.





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Center for the Study of Religion & American Culture
Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis